

Case No. 10/029,654

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Jung, B. et al  
U.S. Appln. No. : 10/029,654  
U.S. Filing Date : December 21, 2001  
Atty. Docket No. : 1/1178

) Art Unit: 1617  
) Examiner: Bahar, M.  
) Confirmation No.: 7012

Title of Invention : Methods for identifying substances for treating inflammatory conditions

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This Reply is filed in answer to the Office Action dated March 25, 2003. In that Office Action, a one month shortened statutory period was set for response. This Reply is therefore timely. If it is determined, however, that any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this Reply, authorization is hereby given to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 02-2955. Furthermore, applicants also request that any subsequently filed reply requiring a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission be treated as if it incorporated such petition for an extension of time pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) and hereby authorizes that any fees due in connection therewith be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2955.

In the Office Action dated March 25, 2003, the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement in the instant application. In response to that restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect for examination purposes Group I, claims 1-13, drawn to assays for determining the expression level of a protein, method for determining whether a substance is an activator or inhibitor of a function of a protein and method of diagnosing or monitoring a chronic inflammatory disease. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute in one or more divisional applications whatever subject matter is not examined or allowed here.

Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims are allowable and therefore solicit a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in advancing prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney below.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan K. Pocchiari

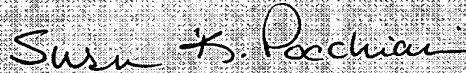
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

on April 16, 2003



By: Susan K. Pocchiari  
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